



Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Another half term has raced by. We had a wonderful end to the term this afternoon with the PTFA sponsored sports event. Thank you for your help, as you have managed to raise well over £400! The final total will be counted by the PTFA team after the break. The winning house was... **Emeralds**. However, the House Captains who supported Mrs Southgate and parents in the running of the event, highlighted the excellent team work shown by all children in their speech.

We have a new music teacher who will be supporting the school through Essex Music Services. There is a 'pen portrait' written by the music teacher to introduce herself. This will be from September. We do have spaces for music lessons, so please enquire with Ms Gooday if your child is interested in signing up. There is a possibility for a taster session.

A polite reminder, please do not park in the disabled parking spaces at any point unless you are a Blue Badge holder. It is vital that these spaces are saved for our families who need it.

My apologies to all Year 3 and 4 parents for the confusion around the Kingswood residential information session. I had so carefully planned the event with staff, but completely forgot to communicate this via Classlist and email. This has been rescheduled for Wednesday 5th June, straight after school in the hall. Thank you to those of you who were able to stay on Wednesday. Letters have been shared with some information, but it is important for the school to get numbers so we can secure the space. This has always been an incredible experience for the children.

I hope you all have a wonderful break over the half term. I look forward to welcoming the children back into school on Tuesday 4th June.

Very best wishes,
Mrs Charlotte Brown

Clarice Cliff

This term in art, Owl's Class have been studying the work of Clarice Cliff. She is a world-renowned painter of pottery from a period in history where very few women were able to reach such heights of responsibility. She started work, in 1912, when she was just thirteen years old. In the 1930s, Clarice Cliff started work on her 'Citrus' design which is the stimulus for our work.

For the first part of our work, we were each given a slice of a citrus fruit to sketch. Next, we painted a version using acrylic paints (which we gave a black outline to) and then created two more versions using watercolours and oil pastels.

We really like the bright colours she used in her work and how she uses very simple shapes so effectively. Her work makes us smile. '...having a little fun at my work does not make me any less of an artist'.

The next part of our art project was to make a bowl for our designs to be painted on to. We used water-activated sticky paper, around a mould, which when dry would produce a bowl of our own. Our bowls are now complete and ready for us to design and paint. Watch this space...

Zach & Ettie





Attendance

You may already be aware, but there are statutory changes coming into effect in September 2024 regarding attendance. This is due to the challenge schools are facing nationally with school attendance and the direct impact that children's attendance in school has on their attainment later in life. Information specifically around the changes in Essex will be shared next half term.

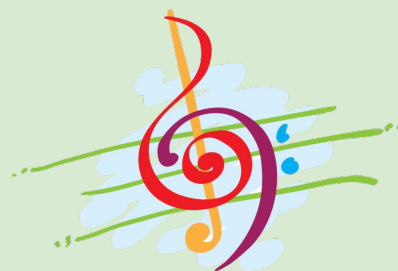
**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

As a school, we are passionate about supporting all children and improving school attendance where needed. There are a range of ways that we can help families where there are challenges with attending school. We know that this is very different for each child.

Please do reach out if you would any specific information around your child's attendance.

New Essex Music Service Teacher

My name is Paula Bobby and I have worked for Essex Music Education Hub for a number of years. I am a fully qualified teacher and have taught one to one piano and woodwind lessons along with classroom music and worked with Essex Youth ensembles and choirs. I teach at primary and secondary schools in the Colchester area and am a District Lead Tutor for Colchester. Music teaching is very important to me and I enjoy working with children and young people helping them develop an interest and enthusiasm for learning to play an instrument and being involved in music making.

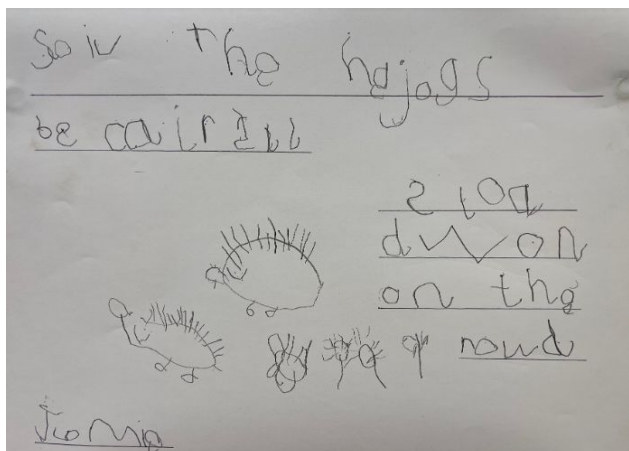


Agents of Change

It's been fantastic to hear about the different ways children have been engaging with Agents of Change over the year.

This week I would like to raise awareness on behalf of one of our children in Reception. They felt very passionate about helping hedgehogs after seeing so many injured along the roads. A great song by Nick Cope, 'Have you heard about Hugh?' also sparked their imagination. With a cause in mind, they set about raising money from family members to support a hedgehog rescue centre. To date, they have raised over £80!

In school, they worked on a poster, and have been telling their friends. It's been a project to inspire the school community about the power we each hold and how everyone can take action, and make a difference!



Clubs

All lunchtime and after school clubs will remain the same for the remainder of the Summer term and therefore there is no need to re-sign your child.

Well done to cheerleading club, who today had their first performance as we announced the winning house for the PTFA sponsored sports event. What a fabulous routine!

Summer Term Diary Dates

- Mon 3rd Jun**- Non-pupil day
- Tues 4th Jun**- KS2 Netball club fixture at St. Lawrence
- Weds 5th June**- KS1 Three Tees Cricket group event
- Weds 5th Jun**- Yr 3/4 parents Kingswood residential talk (3.20pm)
- Weds 12th Jun**- New Sept. 24 Reception intake parent talk (3.30pm)
- Thurs 13th Jun**- School photographs
- Fri 14th Jun**- PTFA Father's Day Remote Control Car event (3.15pm)
- Mon 17th Jun**- Governor monitoring visit day
- Mon 17th Jun**- KS1 SATs weeks begins (x 2 weeks)
- Tues 18th Jun**- KS2 Athletics competition
- Thurs 20th Jun**- KS2 Cricket event
- Fri 21st Jun**- Agents of Change pupil conference
- Tues 25th Jun**- Yr 4/5 Food and Farming trip
- Weds 26th Jun**- SRE resources available for parents to view (3.15pm)
- Thurs 27th Jun**- New Hall Musical Theatre Extravaganza (school choir)
- Tues 2nd Jul**- EYFS Sports Day at St. Lawrence School
- Fri 5th Jul**- Thurstable Disco for Yr 6
- Mon 8th Jul**- Yr 6 transition session in school
- Fri 12th Jul**- Sports Day and Summer Fair
- Mon 22nd Jul**- Leavers assembly (9.45am All Saints Church)